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SUNFLOW ADVERTISEMENT

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Sunflow Ltd. offer a complete solution which can include disposing of your old central heating system, even oil tanks! Discover for yourself this incredible German heating.

Get your FREE brochure by calling our **24hr Brochure Line on: 0800 158 8270** or email: info@sunflowltd.co.uk



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A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO OIL/GAS HEATING - ASK ABOUT OUR REPLACEMENT SERVICE

Freezing council tax

Protecting frontline services



Introduction from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Leader Cllr Andrew Finney

As your local council, we know that it is more important than ever in difficult economic times we provide you with good value for money – that's why we are not proposing any increase in our part of your council tax for the coming year.

You have told us that services including weekly refuse collections, recycling, keeping streets clean, helping people in need of a home, community safety and providing opportunities for young people are all important to you. Access to high quality leisure and cultural facilities and strong planning controls also help to make this borough a great place to live. Therefore we've worked hard to deliver the frontline services you want and direct our resources to where they make most difference.

At the same time we are investing in the future of the borough and championing the needs of our communities. For example, we will complete the refurbishment of The Malls shopping centre in Basingstoke in time for Christmas (see page 9) and plans for the regeneration of Basing View business park are advancing rapidly (see page 8). Anti-social behaviour has been reduced across the borough and particularly in areas where community safety officers patrol (see page 15). New community groups and activities have been started (see pages 6 and 7). The news that the Olympic Flame is coming to the borough after months of work behind the scenes by the council to get it here, is recognition of the continuing investment we are making in our sport and leisure facilities (see page 21).

By cutting costs and making savings wherever possible, we are proposing to freeze council tax once again, while protecting your services. This is despite the pressures of rising costs and inflation. A good example of this is how we've made £1 million of savings a year by running our waste service together with neighbouring Hart District Council (see page 4).

Give us your comments on the council's three year plan

This edition of *Basingstoke & Deane Today* aims to give you an update on your services and other news about our communities. I hope that our proposals for the coming year represent a good balance between recognising that council tax is one of the bills you have to pay in these hard times and the need for us to deliver the high quality services that are important to you.

We'd like to hear your comments on those proposals. There is more information on this on our website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/councilplan, at libraries or by calling 01256 844844. You can also give your views by returning the feedback form on page 17.

Stop press – Olympic Flame is coming to the borough

On 27 July, 2012, the eyes of the world will be on London for the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games as the Olympic Flame arrives at the Olympic Stadium to signify the start of the London 2012 Olympic Games. We are proud to announce that on Wednesday 11 July 2012 the Olympic Flame will reach the borough. Torchbearers will carry the Olympic Flame through Basingstoke which will host a welcome on behalf of our surrounding communities. We will give more information as we have it on the website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/flame

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Our thanks go to all the residents who contributed to this edition.

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For further copies, please call 01256 844844 or email b&dtoday@basingstoke.gov.uk

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Please read and



If you find the size of any of our information difficult to read, please let us know. This magazine is also available in large print. For a copy, please call 01256 844844.

Talking News, a local charity that regularly records news on tape for the visually impaired, also produces *Basingstoke & Deane Today* on tape.

If you would like a copy, please contact Talking News on 01256 464378.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Smashing glass and savings targets



The first phase of the new fortnightly kerbside glass recycling service smashed its initial targets. Approximately 6,000 households covered in the first phase of the new service introduced in July recycled nearly 10% more in their first collections than predicted.

The new service, being introduced in three phases across the borough means that residents are able to put all their glass bottles and jars, without corks or tops, out for collection in their plastic box on their kerbside, on the same day as their green recycling bin is emptied. The first phase of the scheme covers collection rounds in parts of Kingsclere and Kings Furlong, Old Basing, Hatch Warren, Winklebury and Rooksdown. This phase will shortly be assessed to look at any lessons learned.

It is anticipated that the service will then be provided borough-wide during 2012.

The glass collection service is being introduced thanks to a new waste collection partnership with neighbouring Hart District Council. By working with Hart, Basingstoke and Deane Council has saved £1 million a year on its rubbish and recycling service. The company that won the new joint refuse collection contract is Veolia Environmental Services, which has been collecting rubbish and recycling from the borough's households for some years, with high levels of resident satisfaction with the service.

For more information see
www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycle

Playing fields by royal appointment?

Not only is 2012 the year the Olympics comes to London, it is also Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. As part of the celebrations playing fields in the borough are bidding to take on a royal title as part of a national programme called the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. This gives communities an opportunity to vote for an outdoor space in their area to be permanently protected as a tribute to the Diamond Jubilee.

Playing fields selected for the vote are: Brighton Hill Playing Fields, Beggarwood Park, Carpenters Down, Daniel Park in Whitchurch, Eastrop Park, Farriers Close open space in Bramley, Hatch Warren playing fields, new pitches at Marnell Park, Russell Howard Park, Southdown Road playing fields in Tadley, Sherborne Road playing fields, Stratton Park, Sheffield Park playing fields in Sheffield on Loddon and Winklebury playing fields. Results of the vote and what happens next are set to be announced before Christmas.

For further information please visit www.qe2fields.com

Beggarwood Park improvements

An outdoor gym is being installed as the next stage of improvements to Beggarwood Park, after local residents and park users voted for their favourite design. Work is due to start this month (November), and will take approximately four weeks to complete. Other elements of work for completion before the end of March 2012 include informal seating in the amphitheatre area, and improvements to the grass maze. These are still in the design stages, and residents will be notified of the proposals and timescales before work starts.

For more information see
www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/beggarwoodpark



Save money on your fuel bills
Enjoy a warmer home
Lower your carbon emissions

A new council-backed initiative offers residents cavity wall and loft insulation at heavily discounted prices.

For more information, contact 0800 952 0037
or visit www.insulatehampshire.co.uk

Keen recycler David Trotman has designed his own green bin logo



Are you recycling all you can?

Bin changes aimed at cutting waste have now been in place for over a month and residents are beginning to recycle more.

While weekly rubbish collections carry on as usual, most households now only have one grey bin full of rubbish collected every week. This puts more emphasis on residents placing all that can be collected for recycling into their green recycling bin. The cut out guide on this page is designed to be kept in a handy place, such as on your fridge, to act as a reminder of what can be recycled. Keen recycler David Trotman, from Baughurst, is doing his own bit to promote the right use of the green bin to other residents by developing his own recycling logo. He said: "I urge everyone to recycle, we've got to think of our future generations."

There is no limit to how much recycling can be collected in the green bin. If you occasionally have extra or bulky recycling, for example cardboard boxes, you can also put them out next to your green bin.

It is important that residents do not put items that cannot be recycled into their green bin.

The council only collects items for which there is a local recycling market avoiding travelling long distances and creating a carbon footprint that would offset the environmental benefit.

Collection crews are now giving extra recycling help and advice when they spot something in the green bin that shouldn't be there.

Cabinet View



Cllr Elaine Still, Cabinet Member for the Environment, said:

"We are committed to keeping the weekly rubbish collections that residents have told us are really important to them. But we could not continue to collect everything people throw away as rubbish when 50% of waste could be recycled. We need to encourage residents to get closer to that target by recycling all they can."

Your cut out and keep recycling guide

✓ Yes please



- All plastic bottles, such as drinks, milk, cleaning products and shampoo bottles (Please remove lids)



- All aluminium and steel cans, such as drinks, food and pet food cans
- Empty aerosols



- All unlined cardboard packaging and boxes, such as cereal and food boxes



- All clean paper, such as newspapers, magazines, junk mail, directories and Yellow Pages

✗ No thanks



- Plastic packaging, such as polystyrene, cellophane, yoghurt pots, margarine tubs, food trays and flower pots



- Plastic carrier bags
- Bottle tops



- Drinks cartons, such as milk and orange juice cartons



- Shredded paper
- Gift wrap

For more information about recycling call 01256 844844 or visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycle



Bringing communities

The council has a team that works with communities to develop their own activities, residents' groups, youth clubs and other initiatives. Here are their latest updates from around the borough.

Rooksdown community centre open soon

Rooksdown Community Association is preparing for the opening of the brand new and long-awaited community centre next month (December). The new centre will have a separate youth wing to provide activities and opportunities for young people in the area. If you would like to get involved in shaping activities at the centre for the Rooksdown community contact Lucy Mackmin (contact details below). Blossom Day Nursery will be offering childcare at the centre with open days planned before opening a nursery at the centre from January 2012. For information see www.blossomdaynursery.com.

New café serving Brighton Hill community

A new charity has set up a café in Brighton Hill to serve the local community and provide training for people with learning difficulties. Based in the old youth centre at the Dome near Asda, the café opened for business in September.

Other activities on the horizon for Café Dome are lunches for older residents, a youth club, on-line training for learning disabled people and outside catering. The hall is available for hire, and is already being used by a local parent and toddler group. For information call 01256 816375 or email admin@thecafeproject.co.uk or see the website at www.thecafeproject.co.uk.

Bishops Green's new community committee

A new committee was elected in June to run the community centre in Bishops Green. The new committee is really moving the centre forward and working hard to encourage new residents who have moved into the area to get involved. Young people

have enjoyed a variety of activities over the summer with barbecues being provided by the community association.

Help put Tadley film society in the picture

Tadley Community Centre is appealing for volunteers to help run a new Tadley film society. The centre is hoping to show a new release at least once a month as it now has the equipment it needs and is looking to buy tiered seating. For more information see www.tadleycommunitycentre.org.uk

Gill Nethercott Centre means business

The Whitchurch Community Association has developed conferencing facilities for businesses. On offer is a fully integrated audio visual system and free Wi-Fi. Caterers can be arranged with a fully equipped kitchen to hire. For further details contact Sarah Castle on 01256 896270 or email gillnethercottcentre@btconnect.com

Bowls at Oakridge

A Short Mat Bowls Club has opened in Oakridge Hall for All. Held every Monday from 1pm to 4pm, each session costs £2. For more information see www.oakridgehall4all.com

East Woodhay Village Society

A new village society with over 150 members has been one of the results of the work to develop a community plan for East Woodhay. The society has been set up to provide a social focal point for the village and to help bring the community plan to fruition. Working with the parish council, the society has already raised funds to improve local footpaths and is now working on improvements to local play areas. For more information www.eastwoodhay.org.uk

Building on

Youth clubs in the borough are being set up or rejuvenated following the success of the Summer Streetz programme of free evening activities and sessions for 11 to 17-year-olds. Sponsorship from global specialty biopharmaceutical company Shire together with financial support from Sovereign Kingfisher housing association, the borough council and the Community Safety Forum, allowed the Summer Streetz project to expand into more areas this year. A record 3,146 attendances by young people at the sessions helped to kick school holiday boredom into touch with most areas where they were held reporting a drop in anti-social behaviour by young people.

Help needed for North Waltham youth clubs

Volunteers are now needed to get youth activities up and running in North Waltham. The aim is to create two youth clubs in the village; one for 9 to 13 year olds and another for young people aged 14 to 17 years. Anyone interested in working with the teams should contact: Sue Miller on 01256 397073 for the nine to 13 year age group and Neil Wilson-Forsyth on 01256 397485 or email NWSports@AssessorsUK.com for the 14 to 17 year old age group.

New youth club for Popley Fields

Popley Fields Community Association is setting up a new youth club at Popley Fields on Monday evenings. This follows on from the huge success of the Summer Streetz programme at Popley Fields where around 50 young people attended each week. For more information call the centre on 01256 414494 or speak to Stephen Bate (see contact details opposite).

Chilling for young people in Tadley

Tadley Chill Zone is a youth club for young people in school years seven to nine. It is held at Tadley Community Centre every Thursday between 7pm and 9pm. For more information see www.tadleycommunitycentre.org.uk

Musical youth club

Feel Da Pain Enterprises is opening VIBEZ, a youth club at the Irish Centre in Council Road, Basingstoke, from 7pm to 10pm on the last Friday of every month where 13 to 17 year olds can showcase their talent.

together

Streetz success



Oakridge Youth Clubs

Volunteers are needed to help staff a new youth club that opened last month (October) at the Oakridge Hall 4 All. Sessions are held every Thursday from 7pm to 9pm for school year seven upwards, costing £1 per session.

South Ham Youth Club

Hundreds of young people have now benefitted from the South Ham Youth Project, which started in May and runs a youth club every Thursday from 6pm to 9pm. Run by a part time youth worker, Debbie Smith, and a team of volunteers, the project has managed to secure £10,000 of funding from the Sovereign Kingfisher Residents Committee but needs more volunteers. For more information go to www.do-it.org.uk and search for South Ham.

Setting up new Chineham youth activities

A working group looking at youth provision in the Chineham area is getting out and about to speak with young people and find out the activities they would like to see.

Making a difference for your area

Community centres are able to offer activities for people of all ages, thanks to a dedicated band of volunteers who run them.

Basingstoke & Deane Today spoke to two community association chairmen to ask whether they would recommend the role of being a charity trustee to others.



Sherfield Park Community Association Chairman David Leivesley

Now the new Sherfield Park Community Centre is getting up and running, the role of the chairman of the community association for the last six years David Leivesley has really moved up a gear. He said: "By managing and operating the Community

Centre for the benefit of our residents and neighbours and creating a focal point on the development, we ensure that we provide the widest possible range of interests, pastimes and opportunities for education and leisure. This, together with our commitment to represent the wider interests of our residents, makes a real difference in improving the quality of life for all on Sherfield Park. It is one of the most fulfilling activities and one in which you really can make a difference." Sherfield Park Community Centre is now fully open and has lots of activities running for all the family seven days a week. See www.sherfieldparkcommunity.co.uk for more details.

Kingsclere Community Association Chairman Alan Hambidge

Alan Hambidge is the chairman of the Kingsclere Community Association, overseeing the rejuvenation of the Fieldgate Centre, making it an effective venue for clubs and functions and organising many different activities for the village community. He said: "I see this role as involving the whole village in participating in events and functions at the centre and being part of the village and the community as a whole. I also see it as helping the village to be proud of their community and what it has to offer. If you feel you can help improve things and are keen and eager to help others in your community, my advice would be to do it!" More information on the centre is available at www.kingsclere.gov.uk.



If you would like more information about volunteering as a trustee call the community development officer for your area (see the contact details below).

Get in contact, **get involved!**

To find out more about the projects on these pages and others going on in your area, contact the relevant community development officer:

- **Basing, Bramley, Chineham, Popley, Sherborne St John and Sherfield** Stephen Bate on 07500 987638 or via email stephen.bate@basingstoke.gov.uk.
- **Brookvale, Buckskin, Kempshott, Kings Furlong, North Waltham, Oakley, the Candovers and Upton Grey** Dani Berry on 07766 803403 or email danielle.berry@basingstoke.gov.uk
- **Baughurst, Eastrop, Norden, Pamber, Silchester and Tadley** Sherrie Morgan on 07785 516966 or email sherrie.morgan@basingstoke.gov.uk
- **Brighton Hill, Beggarwood, Grove, Hatch Warren, Laverstoke, Overton and South Ham** Simon Christian on 07775 413236 or email simon.christian@basingstoke.gov.uk
- **Bishops Green, Burghclere, East Woodhay, Highclere, Kingsclere, Rooksdown, St Mary Bourne, Whitchurch and Winklebury** Lucy Mackmin on 07775 413251 or email lucy.mackmin@basingstoke.gov.uk

Backing **superfast** broadband

Rural residents are being urged to register their interest in superfast broadband as part of a Hampshire County Council project to get faster broadband in rural areas.

The campaign aims to help close the 'digital divide' with some of their urban neighbours who get superfast broadband when rural villages just half a mile away get little, or no, internet access, and are unlikely to do so by 2015.

A total of £8,420,000 of Government funding has been set aside to deliver superfast broadband to the least commercially viable rural areas in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Now the county council is working with suppliers on delivery plans, to ensure Basingstoke and Deane gets a fair share of the funding and is included in the county's plans, we need those businesses and residents that suffer from poor broadband speeds to register their details.



This rural initiative builds on last year's project to bring superfast broadband to areas of Basingstoke town suffering from poor internet speeds. BT Openreach selected Basingstoke town as one of the first places in the South East to get superfast broadband. Local experts, the council and Basingstoke MP Maria Miller developed a campaign that encouraged people to sign up for faster broadband and helped BT Openreach to overcome technical problems so that the town now has much better broadband coverage and speed.

Households and businesses in Hampshire can register their interest in faster broadband at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/broadband/broadband-signup.htm>

Cabinet View



Cllr Karen Cherrett, Cabinet Member for Corporate Performance and Partnerships, said:

“ Access to responsive, high speed internet services is an essential part of daily life. We increasingly use it to access and deliver information, services, education and leisure opportunities. The council is not responsible for broadband provision but has proved that working with residents, businesses and partners it can exert a strong influence in securing investment for this area. We will continue to press hard to get the best deals for all our areas. ”

Basing View – all on track

The regeneration partner that will work with the borough council to turn Basing View into a 21st century regional business park was about to be named at the time of going to press. The regeneration partner will develop a minimum of five vacant sites the council owns over the next 15 years creating a mix of new office space, leisure facilities and other supporting facilities. There is also a proposal to transform a site at the western end of Basing View into a business class hotel. The news follows the completion of the demolition of City Wall House and Loddon House. Detailed discussions with Network Rail are on-going as the company aims to create a new regional campus on six acres of council-owned land at Gresley Road adjacent to Basing View that will link directly into the business park.

For more information visit www.basingview.co.uk

New apprentices **start work**

Companies in Basingstoke have a new way to recruit apprentices without the risks attached to employing additional staff.

Basingstoke College of Technology is working in partnership with the Apprentice Training Agency to offer local firms a new and flexible way to recruit and train staff. The '100 in 100 Campaign' aims to create 100 new apprenticeships in 100 days for young people aged 16 to 24 to help the local economy and build business growth. This initiative is supported by the National Apprenticeship Service.

Since July of this year, over 20 apprentices have already started work at firms in Hampshire, 50 new apprenticeship jobs now being discussed with firms and over 500 applications from young people have been received. Basingstoke companies involved in the scheme include Beechdown Health Club, Wessex Lodge, Basingstoke Fire Protection and English Rose Boutique.

For further information email: info@apprenticesforbusiness.co.uk

More space for Christmas shoppers

Extra parking is available at Basing View for just £2.50 for a maximum stay of five hours from Saturday 26 November to Sunday 1 January.



The Malls unwrapped for Christmas shoppers!

Have you been down to see The Malls' new look? The outdated shopping centre has been given a major facelift in time for Christmas, continuing the improvement of Basingstoke's town centre.



The Malls' new look

The Malls before

A clear roof canopy has been installed so that shoppers have some protection from bad weather while also allowing in natural light and keeping the 'open air' feel of The Malls. The heavyweight overhanging concrete canopies have been removed, the façades given a modern covering and new lighting and paving have been installed, so that the shopping centre is lighter and brighter. There are new public lavatories, new lifts extended to The Anvil's entrance level and an impressive new archway at the entrance from Basingstoke railway station. The Malls' new look will be officially launched on Sunday 20 November with the switching on of the Christmas lights, as part of a weekend of festive events shared with Festival Place.



Awaiting unveiling at the time of going to press, the new entrance to The Malls from Basingstoke railway station



How the entrance looked before

Cabinet View



Cllr Ranil Jayawardena, Cabinet Member for Finance and Property, said:

“We've invested in The Malls' improvements to make it a modern and pleasant place to shop – with a 'high street' character that complements the neighbouring Festival Place. This helps ensure the town centre's vitality, protects jobs and provides a much better welcome to the town centre for local residents and visitors alike.”

Shoppers' view

What do people think of the improvements? *Basingstoke & Deane Today* spoke to shoppers using The Malls to see what they thought.



Jane Warn said:

“It's much better, we really love it. It's brought it up to the same standard as Festival Place.”

Her daughter Grace Warn, aged 12, said: “It's much better, really cool now.”



Laura Connell said:

“It's changed loads. It's modern and really trendy.”

Emily Tyson said:

“It's really spacious and light, it's so different. I love it.”



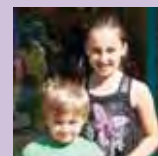
Kevin Chui said: “I really

like the new updated Malls. It makes a real difference. I've watched Basingstoke change over the past 40 years and this is just brilliant.”



Lisa Powell said:

“It's lovely, I love coming here now. It used to be so grey and dull and we never liked coming to this part of Basingstoke but it's really changed things for the better.”



Her daughter Kelly Powell, aged 11, said:

“Really nice and very bright.”

Brother Louie Powell, aged 6, added:

“It's space age.”

Helping people find **home**

People have told us that having an affordable and decent place to live is high on their list of priorities.



This was in evidence when over 220 families and individuals turned up at a housing open day at the council with the majority interested in housing register applications. In recognition of this, one of the borough council's priorities for the coming year is working with housing associations and other partners to deliver as much affordable housing as possible within a very challenging financial climate.

Over 3,500 people in the borough are in 'housing need', for example living in overcrowded homes, or sharing with other households, or who have a specific medical need for a type of housing or, in the worst cases, likely to become homeless. The housing register is a way of bidding for vacant properties that become available.

But there will never be enough homes available to rent from housing associations for all those that want them. And changes are

being put forward nationally that will affect not only how new housing association homes for rent are built, but also how they are let, for example levels of rent changes and the length of tenancies. At time of going to press, detail on how this will affect the borough is awaited.

The demand for housing association homes for rent will always outstrip supply. Therefore, the council works with housing associations, mortgage companies and private landlords to make other options available to help people in housing need. These options include:

- **lower cost options for buying a home**, including part buy, part rent properties offered by housing associations, for example, the shared ownership apartments in the award-winning Skyline plaza (see article opposite) and the newly released properties in Popley Islands. To find out more about these options go to www.homesinhants.co.uk.
- **renting from a private landlord** – the council can give help and advice on finding a suitable privately rented property. For some of those threatened with homelessness, the council may be able to help through a rent bond, removing the need for them to find a deposit.
- **help for people to stay in their own homes**, with options for making existing accommodation more suitable as well as helping people threatened with having their

Cabinet View



Cllr Cathy Osselton, Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Culture, said:

“*Having a decent affordable home to rent or buy is a key priority for our residents. We are targeting our resources at where they can make the most difference to the people of all ages most in need. We are looking for more innovative ways of seeing that homes that people can afford to buy and rent are available in the borough for local people.*”

home repossessed or being made homeless. This might include making sure people are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to, giving expert advice on legal rights or offering to mediate with landlords or family or friends when relationships might be breaking down.

For more information visit the website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/housing or call 01256 844844.

Extra care for older residents

The new £11 million 'extra care' scheme for over 55s at Newman Court in Brighton Hill is very close to welcoming residents with the show apartment now available for viewings and an open day planned for Saturday 12 November. Bridging the gap between sheltered housing and residential care or a nursing home, 'extra care' enables residents to have the independence of their own apartment but with peace of mind with care and support services on site and facilities including a restaurant.

The 64-flat development, with 30 homes available for purchase on a shared equity basis with the rest for rent, will be ready for residents in early 2012. It is a result of close working between the borough council, Hampshire County Council and housing association Saxon Weald, with an extra £3m grant from the Department of Health. A lot of hard work has gone into ensuring this scheme has risen from the ashes following a fire that completely destroyed the building when it was under construction in September 2009.



Those interested in renting a flat at Newman Court should contact Basingstoke and Deane's housing team on 01256 844844. For information on buying a flat call Saxon Weald's sales team on 01403 226035 or email sales@saxonweald.com.

es they can afford

New homes for old?



Proposals are being drawn up by housing association Sentinel to regenerate three residential blocks of maisonettes and flats in Freemantle, Taverner and Westray Close, Oakridge, following the first stage of consultation with local residents.

The feedback and views from the New Horizons community consultation

launched in the area in September are now being used to draw up a number of options, including a complete regeneration of the area to provide more family houses. The age and condition of the blocks has deteriorated over the years and although the homes are structurally sound, they do not meet current standards in terms of heat loss, electrical and mechanical services.

For more information see www.sentinelha.org.uk

Skyline Plaza campaign wins high praise



The Sovereign Living marketing drive to promote new homes available at Skyline Plaza on Alençon Link in Basingstoke scooped the top prize in the most effective marketing category of the Affordable Home Ownership Awards 2011. The 15-week campaign promoted the range of apartments for shared ownership, which allows first-time buyers to purchase an initial share of a property and pay a discounted rent on the rest, with the option of buying a greater share of the home at a later date.

With a humorous take on the 'bank of mum and dad', the campaign promoted the benefits of shared ownership as a way for young adults still living with their parents to get their first home and prompted a massive increase in the number of people enquiring about the apartments.

For more information see www.sovereignliving.org.uk

Changes to benefits

A number of national benefit changes are expected over the coming year under the Government's welfare reforms.

The first of these will affect single tenants under 35, without dependant children, in private rented accommodation, reducing the amount of housing benefit they will be paid from January 2012. The council is already providing help and advice to this group, through the You Trust charity, to ensure those affected have the information they need to make choices about their housing in the future.

From April 2013 Government changes, now out for consultation, propose that council tax benefits move from a national scheme to a locally tailored system offering means tested support to people in the borough who struggle to pay their bills. The Government has stated that it is their intention that pensioners and vulnerable people are protected and has invited councils to comment on how this can be achieved.

The Government proposes to create a new 'universal credit' benefit in the future, which will combine six benefits, including income support, jobseekers' allowance, employment and support allowance, housing benefit, working tax credit and child tax credit, into one overall payment. This is proposed to apply for new claims from October 2013 and all existing claimants moved to the new benefit between October 2013 and October 2017. Detailed proposals for this major change to the benefits system have not yet been announced at the time of going to press. The council will continue to get in touch with all current claimants about benefits changes that affect them to offer advice and support.

For more information on these changes see the website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/benefits, which will be updated as more is known.

New homes – the

Important decisions are set to be taken next year about where new homes will be built in the borough over the next 15 years.

Residents told the council, in response to the *New Homes* consultation last year, that too much housing development had taken place in recent years. Listening to this, the borough council is considering a figure of 594 new homes a year – much lower than the 945 target that the South East Plan had set for the borough. This level is aimed at meeting the future needs of local people, supporting growth in the local economy and providing the right type of housing in the right locations across the borough.

Planning blueprint

The council has to take decisions about where this new housing should be built as part of drawing up a blueprint for future development in the borough. The *Core Strategy*, which forms a key part of this blueprint, will identify where development should go, how new jobs will be supported and how the environment of the borough will be protected and enhanced. In responding to the wishes of the majority of residents reflected in the *New Homes* consultation, the proposal considered by the council's Planning and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet was to spread housing development to different areas in the borough rather than focusing very large scale development all in one area. Previously-developed land and regeneration opportunities had been considered first to reduce the number of greenfield sites needed.



Cabinet View



Cllr Rob Golding, Cabinet Member for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, said:

“Deciding on greenfield housing sites is never easy and there are local objections to many sites, so we cannot please everyone. What is important is that we continue to move towards an approved borough blueprint as soon as possible. Otherwise every community is left open to development on sites chosen by developers not the council.”

Housing sites (shown on map)

Greenfield housing sites proposed to the committee and Cabinet for further study (marked on the plan above in orange and shown below in order of planning reference number) are:

- A Swing Swang Lane, Basingstoke (BAS024) for 100 homes
- B North of Popley Fields, Basingstoke (BAS104) for 450 homes
- C Razors Farm, Basingstoke (BAS107) for 480 homes
- D East of Basingstoke (BAS121) for 900 homes
- E Basingstoke Golf Course, Basingstoke (BAS132) for 1,050 homes
- F Overton Hill, Overton (OV002) for 120 homes
- G Redlands, east of Basingstoke (SOL002) for 150 homes
- H South of Bloswood Lane, Whitchurch (WHIT006/007) for 150 homes

For more information and the latest news visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/LDF or call 01256

The debate continues



The position on Manydown

Questions have been raised by councillors and residents about why land at Manydown to the west of Basingstoke (shown as a light grey hatched area on the map on the left) has not been considered for development. Formal decisions were made some years ago by the joint landowners, the borough council and Hampshire County Council, not to promote the site for development. Councillors are set to review in November why the decision not to promote the land for development had been taken. For the latest update, see the website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/manydown

What is the current situation?

Proposals on the possible location of greenfield housing sites were considered by councillors at the committee meetings in September. The council's decision making Cabinet considered these proposals and recommendations from the committee on Monday 17 October. Cabinet agreed to move forward with further investigation work on the proposed sites before consultation with the public next year. Under council rules, any decision taken by Cabinet can be challenged by other councillors. At the time of going to press, this decision had been challenged and the outcome of the challenge was not known.

How do I have my say?

Public consultation on the draft *Core Strategy* is scheduled for early 2012. If you wish to be contacted when this consultation begins, please email ldf@basingstoke.gov.uk or call the council on 01256 845796 or 845536 to be added to the Local Development Framework consultation database.

Comments from the consultation will be considered fully by the council. Changes based on the feedback may well be made to the draft *Core Strategy* before it is finalised and then submitted to the Government to have it inspected. Those who are still unhappy with it will have a further opportunity to make representations on the submitted document and also to attend an examination in public to express their concerns direct to the inspector. Finally, the inspector will consider whether he or she believes the *Core Strategy* to be sound and will recommend whether the council should adopt it. This could be early in 2013.

o above)

Proposed 'reserve' greenfield housing sites around Basingstoke, needed only if the others can't be built in the next 15 years, (marked in blue):

- ① Kennel Farm (BAS114) for 350 homes
- ② Cufaude Farm (BAS122) for 350 homes

For some villages and towns, a number of new homes have been proposed: Bramley (200 homes); Kingsclere (50 homes); Oakley (150 homes) and Whitchurch (200 homes in addition to those identified south of Blosswood Lane). The location of these homes will be subject to further discussion locally. Smaller villages are also likely to bring forward proposals for small numbers of homes to meet local need.

the website at
844844.

Calling time on

The latest crime figures are showing that working together is making the borough an even safer place to live.



Crime in the borough, which is already a relatively safe area, has fallen by 12% over the last two years with a further two per cent drop in all crime in the year to May 2011.

Basingstoke and Deane Community Safety Partnership brings together the police, other emergency services, councils and public and voluntary organisations, to tackle anti-social behaviour and keep crime down. The partnership sets priorities to coordinate joint action to address emerging trends in the local area.

Last year the partnership focused on cutting violent crime, by targeting criminals and troublemakers. As a result, the borough saw a 10% drop in recorded offences. This year the partners are hoping to see similar success in tackling increased reports of burglary in homes and garages with a number of campaigns and initiatives. The partnership will be in Basingstoke town centre, following visits to a number of supermarkets in other parts of the borough, with a roadshow on Tuesday 13 December from 10am to 4pm, where police, fire and council officers will be giving advice on crime prevention and personal safety.

Peaceful partying



Christmas revellers in Basingstoke are being urged to have a good time but not to let their fun ruin other people's Christmas, as the partnership cracks down on town centre troublemakers. A 'don't even think about causing trouble' zone has been declared in Basingstoke town centre by Hampshire Constabulary and the borough council from the Top of Town to Basingstoke railway station.

A dispersal order now allows the police to move on two or more people if they are likely to cause a disturbance or nuisance. Police are also cracking down on drunken behaviour, stepping up their Operation Drinksafe campaign in the town centre for the holiday season.

Police View



Chief Inspector Andy Bottomley, Basingstoke and Deane District Commander, said:

“ The partnership has worked extremely hard this year to drive down crime in the borough with strong support from the Street Pastors and the Accident and Emergency department at North Hampshire Hospital. We have focused on reducing violent crime and have had great results in solving crimes such as robbery, burglary and vehicle crime. We will continue the prompt and relentless pursuit of those people who commit crime in Basingstoke and Deane. ”

Burglars set to meet their Nemesis

Burglars are being targeted as part of Operation Nemesis, a police crackdown to cut break-ins. But householders are being urged to do their own bit in the force-wide clamp down, by making sure that they don't fall victim to opportunist criminals, especially if they are going away during the festive period.

Many burglars tend to target empty homes. If you are going away to friends or relatives for Christmas or even if you're just out celebrating, try to make it look like someone is home and don't advertise your absence. For example, use time switches – available from most DIY stores – to switch on lights, radios and other appliances when you're out or away. And remember not to make the thieves' Christmas by leaving all your gift wrapped presents under the tree in easy view of the window.

crime

Making a difference on the streets

The latest figures reveal a 8.4% reduction in anti-social behaviour incidents in the whole borough in the year to April 2011. Even more striking is a 14.9% reduction in the areas covered by the borough's community safety patrol officers since they started patrolling.

The team has been on our streets for just under two years and are proving a huge success with over 15,000 incidents dealt with by the team so far. A joint borough council and Hampshire County Council service, the team has been working closely with communities, police and other partners carrying out high visibility patrols, deterring and combating anti-social behaviour. They will soon be having a mini makeover, changing the colour of their high visibility jackets to blue. Some have changed the areas they patrol, so the allocated officer(s) for each area are:

- Eastrop (Alan Wilkinson and Charlie Tall)
- Brookvale (Martin Lee)
- Buckskin (Ashley White and Scott Buchan)
- Brighton Hill (Sarah Ratcliff)
- Norden (Kerri Littlefield and Caroline Fortune)
- Popley East (Paula James-Bailey and Paul Bowman)
- South Ham (David Mason and Natalie Hewitson)
- Tadley (Richard Tozer)
- Winklebury (Matthew Swales-Glasscoe)
- Rooksdown and Popley West (Daniel White)
- Chineham (Alison Afzal)

The team is looking at the type of incidents reported in each area and will be setting a number of community priorities to focus on. Another part of the team deals with issues anywhere in the borough as they occur and they will continue to be deployed in the light of police and council intelligence. To contact the patrol team email community.safety@hants.gov.uk or telephone 01256 845770.



Community safety patrol officer Ashley White with pupils from Chiltern Primary School who completed the Junior Community Team project working with the patrollers

Garages get Armadillo protection



Operation Armadillo, an initiative to cut break-ins to garages and sheds, is set to go borough-wide after a successful pilot project in identified 'hotspots' in parts of Basingstoke. The council worked with Sovereign Kingfisher and Hampshire Constabulary on the campaign, which included branded 'secured garage' signs and strengthened bolts fitted to some garages.

Now Operation Armadillo's security advice is set to be rolled out to other areas encouraging residents to take extra steps to protect their property. The community also plays a vital role in helping tackle this sort of crime so if you have any information, please contact 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Be safe, be seen

Now the clocks have gone back, the Community Safety Partnership has launched a campaign to keep people safe when they are out during the hours of darkness. The message is that if walking, jogging or riding a bike ensure you wear reflective and brightly coloured clothing. If you are driving, make sure your light bulbs are working and your windscreen is clean. For more information see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/comsafety

New surgery building underway

The building of a new purpose-built medical centre and pharmacy for residents in South Ham is well underway. The council is investing £3.2 million to build a brand new doctor's surgery with seven consulting rooms, a dental practice and pharmacy, all next door to a new Methodist church with meeting rooms for the whole community on the existing St Andrew's Church site at the junction of Western Way and Pinkerton Road in Basingstoke.

The new buildings will replace the out-dated and cramped surgery at Paddock Road and its satellite surgery in Hatch Warren.

Although the council is not responsible for

health services, it has funded the building to help the Primary Care Trust to meet the needs of the local community and at the same time get a good rental return. Work started on the site in August and is due to be completed by summer 2012.

Celebrating the start of work on site are representatives of South Ham and Hatch Warren Surgery, Aspire Dental Care, St Andrews' Church, the borough council and builders Leadbitter.



Check nets over **£100,000** fraud payback

Council cross checks of benefit claims against bank account details held by HM Revenue and Customs recovered over £117,000 in benefit fraud – the highest amount recovered by the council from data matching. The checks carried out between April and June this year working with the Housing Benefit Matching Service (HBMS) found undeclared bank accounts. Claimants are made to repay the money and three cases have been referred for prosecution.

All benefit claimants need to remember to disclose all their bank accounts and savings when applying for housing and council tax benefit and to report all changes to their circumstances that might affect how much benefit they receive.

If you wish to report a benefit cheat, please call the 'Fraud Hotline' on 0800 525927 or 01256 845378.

Keeping M3 corridor businesses booming

Enterprise M3, the Local Enterprise Partnership covering most of Hampshire and west Surrey was approved in February this year. The public and private partnership, which is chaired by Geoff French from the Basingstoke-based company URS Scott Wilson, has been set up to support economic development across the area. Businesses of any size are being invited to get involved in action groups to address issues including finance, innovation and

business support; infrastructure; land and property; leisure and tourism; inward investment, the rural economy and broadband and skills and employability.

To find out more, join an action group, or sign up to receive email alerts contact Natalie Wigman, the council's Business Relationships Manager, on 01256 845692 or email natalie.wigman@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Planning controls for multiple occupation homes

From July 2012 planning permission will be needed in some areas of the borough to control the conversion of houses to 'houses in multiple occupation'. Under new national regulations, there is no longer a requirement for landlords or home owners to apply for planning permission when rooms in the same property are to be let to different unrelated tenants, for example student accommodation.

But the council has decided that planning permission will still be needed for conversion to a house in multiple occupation in Basingstoke town and, to avoid any knock-on effect for surrounding areas, Chineham, Old Basing, Oakley and Sherborne St John, including West End. Aimed at keeping a balance between the need for this type of housing and ensuring there isn't an impact on established communities, the local planning direction has been made after the council consulted with residents, landlords, parish and town councils and community groups.

For more information see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/multipleoccupation.

Don't delay - ensure your vote today!

You need to confirm or update your electoral registration details with the council every year



If you haven't returned the form or registered online or over the phone, you need to do this by **21 November** to get on the updated register being published in December.

If you have lost your form or need any help call the electoral services hotline on 845355

Register by **21 November**



Volunteering to help **your community**

Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane Cllr David Leeks pays tribute to the many volunteers he has met during his term of office

“ Recently I've been invited to two celebrations of voluntary organisations who have each been serving our borough for a quarter of a century – Basingstoke Rape and Sexual Abuse Crisis Centre and Basingstoke Counselling Services. Both of these organisations, and many others across the borough, function only



with the support of volunteers. What I have enjoyed most during my time as Mayor has helping to recognise the vital role that volunteers play in our community. I have met hundreds of people who give up their time to help others who are less fortunate.

If you'd like to do something that makes a real difference in other people's lives, there are many community organisations that would love to hear from you. For example, Bill Sample, who organises the Poppy Appeal in

Basingstoke on behalf of the Royal British Legion, needs volunteers to distribute collection tins and carry out collections next November. He can be contacted on 01256 357666. Basingstoke Voluntary Services also run a volunteer centre to put people in touch with groups that need their help, see www.voluntaryservices.com or call 01256 423850. ”

Planning Jubilee **celebrations?**

A number of street parties were held across the borough to celebrate the royal wedding and it is likely that local communities will also want to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. The borough council's events team is holding workshops in January and March 2012 for anyone wishing to organise a community celebration, such as a street party, to give advice on activities and practical issues such as road closures and ensuring the safety of people who come along. For more information see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/streetparties

For more information about the Mayor, or to invite him to a community event, see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/mayor

Cut out and return feedback form ✂

Your services... Your area...
Your say

Give us
your views
and you could win
a shopping spree

We are offering one *Basingstoke & Deane Today* reader the chance to **win a £50 Festival Place voucher**. Please fill in this form and return freepost or go to www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/feedback to fill in the survey online. All responses received – online or on the form – will be put into the prize draw to win the voucher. **Responses need to be received by Friday 16 December.**

Council service and plans feedback

The article on page 3 and the articles throughout this edition give information on the council's plans for the coming year and updates on what the borough council is doing. Please use the box below to let us know your views and comments on these proposals or any other aspect of council services:

Don't forget to fill in the other side of this form over the page, giving us your contact details in case you win the prize draw.

**Cut out and return
feedback form**

Cut out and return feedback form ✂

Give us **your views** and you could win a shopping spree (see overleaf for details and don't forget to fill in both sides of the form)

A good read? Let us know what you think

How useful is this magazine at informing you about what the council is doing?

very useful useful not useful don't know

What type of stories or features would you like to see in future editions of *Basingstoke & Deane Today*?

What information would you like us to include from other public services and community groups?

How well informed do we keep you about council services?

very well informed well informed not well informed

How do you prefer to find out information about council services?

- council publications and leaflets, for example *Basingstoke & Deane Today* magazine
- council website
- local newspapers
- other, please specify

About you

Miss/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other

First name:

Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Daytime number (if entering the competition)

In complying with the Data Protection Act 1998, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council confirms that it will process personal data gathered from this form only for purposes relating to the council plan consultation and magazine feedback and for the purposes of the competition only.

Return in an envelope – no stamp needed to:

Basingstoke and Deane Today
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
FREEPOST BZ740, Basingstoke RG21 4GA

Prize draw rules You must be over 18 and a resident of the borough to receive the prize. The prize is not exchangeable for money. The winner will be notified by Friday 20 January 2012. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



Local residents including Pamela Heyfron from Oakley, here pictured with her husband Robert, helped DisabledGo to survey venues in the borough.

DisabledGo guide helps improve access

The new DisabledGo online access guide aims to take the guess work out of visiting shops, restaurants, hotels, pubs, leisure centres, libraries, parks, beauty spots and other venues in the borough for disabled people. The guide, at www.disabledgo.com/en/org/basingstoke-and-deane-borough-counc, offers detailed and up-to-date access information to over 500 venues in the area thanks to funding from the council. Free to use without any need for registration, the guide has been produced by DisabledGo, a national charity and the biggest source of personally surveyed access guides in the UK.

Get your car washed while you shop

A brand new car wash service has arrived in car parks operated by the borough council in central Basingstoke.

The move is set to bring in extra income for the council to help keep council tax as low as possible, while providing a useful and time-saving service for car park users. The car wash service is run by Timsun Services who are a Basingstoke-based company that has been operating in the car wash business across the country for the last 10 years and provides an environmentally-friendly service. The car wash service is available in Alencon Link, Castons, Castons Yard, Central, Joices Yard and Churchill Way car parks. The costs range from £6 for an exterior wash up to £30 for a full valet.

For further information call the council's parking services team on 01256 844844

Changes to registering for parking permits

Residents no longer need to come into the council offices to register for parking permits in the borough. Before residents had to show a council tax bill to get a parking permit. Now this process has been matched up with council tax accounts so residents are able to phone the contact centre and are issued with a parking permit through the post.



World Party in the Park this year gave a taster of the Basingstoke Festival 2012 atmosphere (picture courtesy of The Making taken by Joe Low).

Basingstoke gets **festival fever**

Basingstoke is set to be put on the festival map in 2012.

During the Basingstoke Festival, which will run from 22 June to 15 July 2012, a vibrant programme of events for all ages to enjoy will be taking place at venues across the borough. Activities include a world premiere concert at The Anvil, community Shakespeare and the successful Basingstoke Live, so there will be something for everyone.

If you like street art or want to talk to a published author, if you love classical music or want to laugh out loud at a local comedian or if you just want to sit back and relax with some music, then there will be something for you at the festival.

Organisers are looking for community groups to come forward and get involved if they

are planning activities that could be part of the Festival.

Residents can also sign up early to be sent emails with news and information about the Festival as the programme develops.

To let Basingstoke Festival organisers know what your community is planning or to register for more information please call 01256 844844 or email festival@basingstoke.gov.uk

Who's taking you home? Need a ride home after Christmas and New Year celebrations?

Don't put yourself in danger:

- **prebook your journey home using a licensed private hire company or go to the nearest taxi rank for a licensed taxi (these vehicles and drivers have all been approved by the council)**
- **never get into a car that does not display council issued licence plates or signs**



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Remember, if you have concerns report them to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on 01256 844844 and don't get in the vehicle.



*Basingstoke
and Deane*



Help at hand to switch to digital TV

In 2012 the traditional TV signal will be switched off in the Meridian Region and replaced with a digital TV signal. The Switchover Help Scheme has been set up to make digital TV easier for older and disabled people by converting one of their televisions. People eligible for help are those who are: aged 75 or over; have lived in a care home for six months or more; get or could get disability living allowance, attendance or constant attendance allowance or mobility supplement or are registered blind or partially sighted.

Most people will be asked to contribute £40 towards the help however, the service is free for people who get pension credit, income support, income-based jobseekers allowance or employment and support allowance.

For further information on the Switchover Help Scheme visit www.helpscheme.co.uk or call 0800 40 85 900. Textphone users can call 0800 40 85 936. To find out when you switch go to www.digitaluk.co.uk and type in your postcode.

Online guide for over 55s

Over 55s' Forum Chairman Graham Finlayson and Vice Chairperson Marian Wilson with the new guide.



Older residents can get up-to-date information on services and activities in the area at the touch of a button following the launch of a new online directory.

The guide for over 55s provides a source of information broken down into the categories of advice, support and safety; home and finance; health care and carers; social activities and learning; and transport and disabilities. It was produced after requests to different organisations providing services and activities for older residents for more information on what is available in the borough. Building on the popular 55Plus book produced in 2006, which went out of date quickly in printed format, the guide's contents were put together in consultation with the Over 55's Forum committee.

The guide is available at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/over55sguide, which printed copies available from libraries or by calling 01256 844844.

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No job too small. For more information call

Telephone: 01420 562268

Mobile: 07968 855480

Landlords urgently needed

Want regular income? Want to provide a home for a family in need?

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council can help you find suitable tenants for properties you wish to rent out

We are particularly interested to hear from landlords of two-bedroomed properties.

Through our rent bond scheme we can support landlord and tenant by providing:

- £1,000 to cover against rent arrears
- a named contact at the council
- a pre-tenancy suitability check

For more information call 01256 845638 or housing@basingstoke.gov.uk



Basingstoke and Deane

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Half marathon winner
Tony Lambert

On your marks, get set for 2012

London 2012 is drawing ever closer – and now will be even closer with the Olympic Flame coming to the borough.

The borough's aspiring athletes can put themselves in the running for sporting success following work to upgrade the athletics track at the Down Grange sports complex. The council has funded the resurfacing and extension of the track from six to eight lanes and upgraded the field events facilities and floodlights as part of a £1 million programme of improvements at the complex off Pack Lane in Basingstoke. The track improvements will allow Basingstoke and Mid Hants Athletics Club to host national and regional fixtures in the borough and it is also hoped that the upgraded facilities will be attractive as an Olympic Training Camp venue.

As part of the improvement scheme, the Astroturf pitch at the sports complex has also been resurfaced and a more sustainable irrigation system to water the pitch is due to be installed. Additional car parking to support the upgraded facilities at Down Grange is also planned.

Planting the seeds for Olympic glory

Children in the borough are being encouraged to grow their creative talents for an Olympic flower bed competition. To celebrate London 2012, young people aged between seven and 11 are being asked to design an Olympic-themed flower bed which will be planted in Eastrop Park next year, along with a sign displaying the name of the designer. A £50 Festival Place voucher will also be presented to the winner and the runner-up and all entrants will receive a certificate. Entries must be received by 1 December. For more information on the competition and the competition rules visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/goingforgold or call 01256 844844.



A runaway success

This year's inaugural Destination Basingstoke Shire Half Marathon was a sell out with all places snapped up two months ahead of race day.

Runners from all over the country completed the 13.1 mile challenging course in unseasonably hot conditions, taking in a mix of the borough's town and countryside, enjoying enthusiastic support from local spectators.

"We wanted to use the race as a way of demonstrating to people outside the area that Basingstoke is a vibrant place, with amazing people, where great things happen," said race organiser Felicity Edwards. "With such levels of enthusiasm and support among local residents, businesses and runners we feel we have achieved a lasting legacy for the borough."

Now organisers Destination Basingstoke have already started preparations for the 2012 event with the provisional date for next year's event set for Sunday 7 October 2012.

For more information and to enter online visit www.basingstokehalfmarathon.com

Cabinet View



Cllr Clive Sanders, Cabinet Member for Communities, Sport and Leisure and Deputy Leader, said:

"The Olympic Flame is coming to Basingstoke and Deane! It's a unique opportunity for each of our local Torchbearers who will be for a short while the most important person in the biggest event in the world. And it's a tribute to all our sports clubs and organisations and the commitment we have as a community to supporting sport and leisure in the borough."

What's on

For more events, ideas for days out and a comprehensive list of what's happening in Basingstoke and Deane see www.destinationbasingstoke.co.uk

Philharmonia Orchestra

Saturday 19 November, 7.45pm

The Anvil, ticket prices vary

Vaughan Williams' overture, *The Wasps*, written for a university production of the famous comedy, is one of his very best short pieces. An immediate success, with over one hundred performances in its first year, the Symphony no. 1 remains one of Elgar's most popular works and contains some of his most beautiful music.

Death by Fatal Murder

Thursday 22 November to

Saturday 26 November, 7.30pm

The Anvil, ticket prices vary

Starring EastEnders 'Dirty Den' Leslie Grantham, Inspector Pratt is back in this mystery drama.

Author talk by Carole Matthews

Thursday 24 November, 2pm

Basingstoke Discovery Centre, £3 per ticket



Arabian nights

Thursday 24 November to Saturday 26 November, 7pm

Central Studio, ticket prices vary

This winter Proteus will be taking audiences at community venues across the borough on a magical journey to the far east, to the home of Aladdin, Ali Baba, Sinbad and the most famous storyteller of all, Scheherazade.

Arabian nights

Saturday 3 December, 2pm

Hatch Warren Community Centre, ticket prices vary

Owen O Neill

Friday 9 December, 7.30pm

Central Studio, £10, £8 concessions

Owen O Neill made his TV debut on Saturday Live in 1985 and has been wowing audiences ever since.

Beauty and the Beast



Friday 9 December to

Saturday 31 December

The Haymarket, ticket prices vary

Beauty and the Beast is perfect for those looking for an alternative to pantomime. The story is a heart-warming adaptation of the fairy tale.

Victorian Christmas

Saturday 10 December, 11am to 5pm

Milestones Museum, ticket prices vary

Experience the magical glow of a Victorian Christmas which includes craft and gift stalls, carol singers, hand bell ringers and a silver band.



Peter Pan

Thursday 8 December to Monday 2 January

The Anvil, ticket prices vary

Peter Pan, a pantomime for all the family and is undoubtedly one of the most famous and best-loved stories for children.



Ben-Ryan Davies, of Waterloo Road, will be Peter Pan at The Anvil

Father Christmas Grotto

10, 11, 17 and 18 December, 10 am to 5pm

Basing House, ticket prices vary

Meet Father Christmas in this delightful setting

Arabian Nights

Tuesday 20 December, 2pm

Westside Community Centre, ticket prices vary

Arabian Nights

Friday 6 January, 7pm

Bishop Green Community Centre, free

Arabian Nights

Saturday 21 January, 5pm

Tadley Community Centre

London Mozart Players

Thursday 26 January, 7.45pm

The Anvil, ticket prices vary

One of Stravinsky's most engaging neo-classical scores, *Dances Concertantes* was first performed in 1942.

Basingstoke Gang Show 2012


Thursday 9 February to Saturday 18 February, 7.15pm

The Haymarket

Enjoy the highly talented cast made up of Basingstoke Scouts and Guides who are performing the 20th Basingstoke Gang Show. Over 60 Scouts and Guides aged between 8 years and 24 years old will give you this spectacular show.

south east water

Water Meters




South East Water has begun installing compulsory water meters in the Kempshott, Hatch Warren and Brighton Hill areas, before rolling it out across the rest of Basingstoke.

The South East of England has been classed as an area of serious water stress and installing meters will go a long way to protecting your future water supplies. It's also a fairer way to pay for water as you'll only pay for what you use.

We will let you know when your meter will be fitted four months in advance.

To find out more information on the metering programme including when we will be holding drop-in sessions in your area, visit www.southeastwater.co.uk or call **0333 000 0003**.



Making every drop count

www.southeastwater.co.uk

A Victorian Festival of Christmas

Friday 25th – Sunday 27th November 2011



Baby Reindeer & Snow
Traditional Entertainment
Cookery Theatre & Food
Christmas Shopping

wave
105.2 FM
the south's best variety of hits

SOUTH WEST TRAINS
Travel by train and save with our combined ticket offer

www.christmasfestival.co.uk **0844 880 5419**



PORTSMOUTH HISTORIC DOCKYARD

- Haven't got a garage with your home?
- Looking for a space solution?
- Unable to park outside your home?
- Worried about theft?
- Concerned about vandalism?

Garages for rent from only £7.04 per week

For more information and an application form, phone: 01256 464114 or visit www.sovereign.org.uk/sovereignkingfisher/garage




sovereign kingfisher

Kingfisher HVHS Housing Association Limited is a charitable association and part of The Sovereign Housing Group Limited

Keep in touch with your council

By website, click:

www.basingstoke.gov.uk

Online 24 hours a day you can:

- Pay your council tax or pay for the garden waste collection service or for a parking ticket
- Buy tickets for some of the Mayor's charity events or donate to his charities
- Apply for planning permission, to join the housing register or for job vacancies
- Report a missed bin, flytipping, graffiti or litter



On Twitter, follow:

@BasingstokeGov

For service updates and the latest news from the council

By SMS message, text:

07797 877006

By phone, call:

The contact centre on **01256 844844**

The contact centre is open Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 5.30pm and on Fridays from 8.30am to 5pm (except bank holidays).

Christmas opening hours – the contact centre will be closed from 2pm on Friday 23 December until 8.30am on Tuesday 3 January.

For emergencies relating to council services during this time call 01256 844844 and stay on the line to be connected with the out-of-hours service.

With your borough councillor

Find yours at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/mycouncillor or call **01256 844844**

In person, visit:

The Civic Offices in London Road, Basingstoke.

The Civic Offices are open Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 5pm and on Fridays from 8.30am to 4.30pm (except bank holidays).

Christmas opening hours – the council will be closed from 2pm on Friday 23 December until 8.30am on Tuesday 3 January

By post, write to:

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council,
Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH

Bin collections



over the festive period

Collection crews will be taking Boxing Day off but will work the next Saturday to catch up, so:

if your normal collection day would be:

Monday 26 December
Tuesday 27 December
Wednesday 28 December
Thursday 29 December
Friday 30 December

put your grey bin (and green bin if your recycling week) out instead on:

Tuesday 27 December
Wednesday 28 December
Thursday 29 December
Friday 30 December
Saturday 31 December

As Christmas can mean extra rubbish, for example wrapping paper that can't be recycled, in the first collection after Christmas ONLY extra sacks alongside your grey rubbish bin will be collected. As normal there will be no limit on how much recycling can be collected. Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections will return to normal from Monday 2 January. For more information about bin collections see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycling or call 01256 844844.

Whatever the weather!

In heavy snow, floods or gales, remember to look out for updates on the website and via Twitter!

Find out more and how you can volunteer to help out in a community crisis at

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/snow

